Black marketing of fertilizers

†157. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are uniform criteria for supply of fertilizers to all States of the country during Kharif and Rabi seasons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware of the rampant black marketing of fertilizers during sowing season in the country; and

(d) if so, efforts made/being made by Government to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Government have approved the New Pricing Scheme (NPS) Stage III to be implemented with effect from 1.10.2006. Under the NPS III, the effort is to reach urea to each and every State. The subsidy on urea will be paid only when it reaches the district. The urea is allotted as per monthly requirement project by State Government throughDepartment of Agriculture and Cooperation. The requirement of urea is met through indigenous production and gap between demand assessment and indigenous production is met through imports.

Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. All other fertilizers *viz.* DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/de-canalized since 1992. The availability of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply. Department of Fertilizers gives Statewise/monthwise supply plan indicated by manufacturers/importers of these fertilizers as per the requirement and ensures availability through the instrument of subsidy.

(c) and (d) The State Governments, as the enforcement agencies, are adequately empowered under Fertiliser Control Order, 1985 to take appropriate action against any offender who indulges in any kind of malpractices including black marketing.

Destruction of toxic waste generated by Union Carbide Plant

158. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken measures or proposes to take the same for the destruction of tonnes of toxic waste generated by Union Carbide Plant in Bhopal 25 years ago;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) The High Court of Madhya Pradesh while hearing the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed in Writ Petition No. 2802/2004 regarding removal of toxic wasters from the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.